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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

OIC-04 RSR-01 /093 W
---------- 062000
R 270840Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6017
INFO USUN N.Y. 1236

UNCLAS BANGKOK 13321

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECAFE: AORG
SUBJ: RED: ECAFE: REFORM AND REORGANIZATION

REF : BANGKOK A-234

1. AT INFORMAL MEETING BETWEEN PERM REPS AND SECRETARIAT AUGUST 24 AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT FIRST FORMAL MEETING PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 138 (XXIX) WOULD BE HELD DURING WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17. PROVISIONAL AGENDA WILL BE POINTS LISTED IN JULY 24 LETTER FROM PERMREP TO EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (ENCLOSURE NO. 1 OF A-234). CHAIRMANSHIP OF MEETING IS TO BE DECIDED BY PARTICIPATING PERMREPS AND GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES.

2. AT OUTSET OF MEETING INDIANPERMREP (AMBASSADOR BHANDARI) SUGGESTED THAT REVIEW OF CONFERENCE STRUCTURE ETC BE CARRIED OUT BY AN INFORMAL AD HOC GROUP COMPOSED OF PERMREPS AND DESIGNATED SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVES AND THAT IT TAKE FORM OF A CONTINUING DIALOGUE EXTENDING OVER SEVERAL WEEKS. MARAMIS EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR THE ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTION PUT FORWARD BY USREP FOR SERIES OF TWO OR POSSIBLY THREE MEETINGS OF SEVERAL DAYS EACH, WITH SUFFICIENT INTERVAL TO OBTAIN INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS ON PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD. ALTHOUGH HE HAD ENVISAGED MEETINGS BEING CONDUCTED IN SAME INFORMAL MANNER AS AUGUST 24 SESSION, I.E., WITH HIMSELF ACTING AS MODERATOR AND ARBITER, HE RECOGNIZED THAT CONSENSUS
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WAS FOR ORGANIZATION OF PERM REP MEETINGS AS INTERGOVERNMENTAL

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WORKING GROUP WITH OFFICERS ELECTED FROM AMONG GOVERNMENT
REPRESENTATIVES.

3. COMMENT: WE CONSIDER TI IMPORTANT THAT RESOLUTION 138
REVIEW BE CONDUCTED BY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES (PERMREPS
OR OTHER) AND THAT SECRETARIAT PARTICIPATE IN AN ADVISORY
BUT NOT DECISION-MAKING CAPACITY. NEED FOR THIS HAS BECOME
VERY APPARENT IN A PAPER CIRCULATED TO PERMREPS BY A.G.
MENON (PRESENTLY DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY) WHICH IN COMMENTING
ON JULY 24 LETTER ARGUES THE CASE FOR RETENTION OF THE STATUS
QUO (COPIES POUCHED). A PERMREP/SECRETARIAT DIALOGUE COULD
THUS QUICKLY DEGENERATE INTO A CONFRONTATION AND NOT PRODUCE
MUCH REFORM OR REORGANIZATION. PERMREPS MUST OF COURSE AVOID
DISCUSSING ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE
SECRETARIAT, WHICH ARE THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S CONCERN.
BY THE SAME TOKEN THE ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES OF THE
COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES AS WELL AS
THE CONTENT OF THE WORK PROGRAM ARE MATTERS FOR DECISION BY THE
MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THIS DIVISION OF
REPSONSIBILITY IS ONE OF THE NEEDED REFORMS WHICH THE
RESOLUTION 138 REVIEW SHOULD ACCOMPLISH.
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Disposition Event:
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